

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PORT M 00680 110147Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 L-03
CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01 ICA-11 H-01
CPR-01 /067 W
-----065831 110209Z /61
P 102300Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY PORT MORESBY
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3247

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT MORESBY 0680

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDEV, PDIP, US, BP
SUBJECT: POSSIBILITY KENNEDY ATTENDANCE AT SOLOMON ISLANDS
INDEPENDENCE

REF: A) STATE 117999, B) PORT MORESBY 0622

1. WE ARE DELIGHTED BY POSSIBILITY THAT SEN. KENNEDY WILL
HEAD US DEL TO SOLOMON ISLANDS INDEPENDENCE (REF A). THIS
WILL BE INTERPRETED THROUGHOUT PACIFIC AS CLEAR INDICATION
OF GROWING US INTEREST IN THIS AREA. SOLOMON ISLANDERS WILL
BE OVERWHELMED.

2. WE HOPE VERY MUCH SEN. KENNEDY WILL ALSO STOP IN
PAPUA NEW GUINEA FOR BRIEF VISIT. ONCE THE ANNOUNCEMENT
OF HIS VISIT TO HONIARA IS MADE, WE WILL BE UNDER SEVERE
PRESSURE FROM GPNG TO HAVE HIM VISIT PORT MORESBY AS WELL.
HENCE WOULD APPRECIATE INDICATION OF LIKELIHOOD OF HIS
VISITING HERE EITHER BEFORE OR AFTER HIS VISIT TO
HONIARA.

3. IN DISCUSSIONS WITH SENATOR'S STAFF, IT IS IMPERATIVE
THAT THEY BE MADE AWARE OF SEVERE LIMITATION ON HOUSING
IN HONIARA. GSI WILL PROVIDE SPACE IN MEDANA HOTEL FOR
DELEGATE AND WIFE. AMBASSADOR WILL STAY WITH FRIEND.
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OTHER MEMBERS DELEGATION WILL HAVE TO RELY ON US NAVY FOR
SPACE. CINCPAC INFORMS US THAT, SUBJECT TO MANNING LEVELS
OF SHIPS WHICH WILL BE IN HONIARA FOR INDEPENDENCE
CELEBRATION, NAVY CAN PROVIDE BERTHS FOR UP TO TEN PERSONS.

4. IF SENATOR WILL HAVE MEDIA ENTOURAGE ACCOMPANYING,
SUGGEST MEDIA REPS REQUEST SPACE FROM AUTHORITIES (TELEX

ADDRESS IS INDECELEB HONIARA) PROMTLY, AS GSI RESERVING
HONIARA'S SECOND HOTEL FOR MEDIA--PROBABLY ON FIRST
COME, FIRST SERVED BASIS AND SPACE VERY LIMITED. ONLY
OTHER ACCOMMODATIONS ARE IN SMALL HOTEL RESERVED FOR U.S.
MARINE VETS WHO RETURN ANNUALLY TO SOLOMONS AND WHO HAVE
ON-GOING PROGRAM THERE. NO REPEAT NO OTHER SPACE EXISTS
TO BE DRAWN ON.

5. IN VIEW BOTH U.S. NAVAL HISTORY AND SUPPORTIVE ROLE
CINCPAC PLAYING, BELIEVE ADMIRAL WEISNER OR HIS REPRESENTATIVE
SHOULD BE INCLUDED ON US DELEGATION.
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